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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

Meeting of Representatives of Wismut
Technisches Kontor and Representatives
of the Ministry of Heavy Industry

DATE DISTR. 11 January 1955

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- On 30 September 1954, a discussion took place between representatives of Wismut Technische Kontor and representatives of the East German Ministry of Heavy Industry. The following were present at this meeting in Karl-Marx-Stadt (Chemnitz):
 - e. Director Batishev (fnu), chief of the Technical Office (Kontor) of Wismut.
 - b. Dr. Werner Winkler, deputy minister in the Ministry of Heavy Industry.
 - c. <u>Diplom Ingenieur</u> Hegenbarth (fnu), chief of the Section for Alkali in the Main Administration for Heavy Chemistry of the Ministry for Heavy Industry.
 - d. Nagel (fnu), chief of the Material Procurement Section of the Main Administration for Heavy Chemistry.
- 2. The following matters were brought up for discussion at the meeting:
 - a. Dr. Winkler submitted a list of cable, for which there is great need at the Leunawerke. Batishev promised to check the list and have an answer by 11 October 1954.
 - b. Hegenbarth pointed out that in 1955 there would be a shortage of at least 10,000 tons of chlorine, and that his section was interested in the substitution of sulfuric acid for hydrochloric acid. It was suggested that Wismut be allotted 5,000 additional tons of sulfuric acid and 13,000 tons less of hydrochloric acid. It was further suggested that, in the fourth quarter of 1954, five hundred tons less of hydrochloric acid be delivered. It was generally agreed that this would be feasible, if about 200 tons of sulfuric acid were placed at the disposal of Wismut.
 - c. The substitution of caustic soda (Aetznatron) for soda (Soda) was discussed, in view of the fact that some 10,000 tons of caustic soda have not been allocated for use in 1955. The suggestion was turned down; however, Wismut may possibly buy greater quantities of caustic soda than previously envisaged.

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- d. Wismut listed definite 1955 requirements for potassium permanganate as 3,000 tons and also indicated a possible (perspektiv) amount of 5,000 tons. The State Committee for Material Procurement can supply 720 tons only (as against 180 tons in 1954). All 1955 production, which is expected to be an increased production, is to go to Wismut. The Ministry representatives made the suggestion that high grade manganese dioxide be substituted for the potassium permanganate.
- e. In 1954, Wismut received only 100 tons of chlorate. It is expected that in 1955, about 600 tons will be placed at the disposal of Wismut. However, the Technical Office of Wismut listed its 1955 chlorate requirements as 6,000 tons. So far, this part of the discussion had centered around potassium chlorate. The Germans suggested the substitute use of the cheaper and more easily procurable sodium chlorate. The Soviets raised no objections to this suggestion.
- f. In conclusion, Dr. Winkler stated that it would do no harm, if the Section for Alkali in the Main Administration for Heavy Industry increased its production of potassium permanganate by 3,000 tons and its production of chlorate by 6,000 tons.

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